

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 17597 070859Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 HA-05 TRSE-00 BIB-01 CU-04

ACDA-12 /104 W

-----077258 070901Z /17/70

R 061145Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5298

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORT

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 17597

CORRECTED COPY (MRN TO READ 17597 VICE 17595)

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG ID UR

SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON ASEAN

REF: (A) MOSCOW 14616, (B) MOSCOW 17182, (C) JAKARTA 16237

1. DARUSMAN MUST HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO RELATIVELY POSITIVE EDITORIAL ON ASEAN IN NOV. 19 IZVESTIYA REPORTED REF B. WE HAVE SEEN NO SIMILAR ARTICLES ON ASEAN IN PRAVDA AND THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE ON ASEAN IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS RECENTLY.

2. SOVIET PERSPECTIVE OF ASEAN AND THE SEA REGION WILL CONTINUE TO BE GUIDED BY FACTORS ANALYZED REF A. MOSCOW PRIMARILY SEEKS TO COORDINATE ITS POLICY WITH VIETNAMESE IN THE SEA REGION. ACCORDING TO NOV. 23 STATEMENTS OF SOVIET MFA OFFICIAL REPORTED REF A, MOSCOW SEES VIETNAMESE CONFIDENTIAL

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POLICY AS:

-- OPPOSING ASEAN ON BASIS THAT ASEAN HAS TENDENCIES TO DEVELOP INTO AN "ANTI-COMMUNIST MILITARY BLOC";
-- SEEKING TO DEVELOP BETTER BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SOME INDIVIDUAL ASEAN COUNTRIES.

3. WHILE RELATIVELY UPBEAT, NOV. 19 IZVESTIYA

ARTICLE ALSO REPEATS THE STANDARD SOVIET CHARGES THAT
"CERTAIN CIRCLES IN ASEAN COUNTRIES" ARE HOPING TO
TURN ASEAN INTO A "MILITARY ALLIANCE DIRECTED MOST
OF ALL AGAINST THE INDO-CHINA STATES." WE ANTICIPATE
THAT SOVIET POLICY WILL CONTINUE TO COINCIDE WITH
THE GENERAL VIETNAMESE FOREIGN POLICY COURSE IN SEA.
ANY SIGNIDICANT CHANGES IN MOSCOW'S LINE WILL
FOLLOW RATHER THAN PRECEED HANOI'S INITIATIVES. TOON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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